

**MAGNOLIA POWER PROJECT
APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION
RESPONSE TO CEC DATA REQUESTS
01-AFC-06**

Technical Area: Cultural Resources

BACKGROUND

Staff needs to ensure that the project complies with all Federal, State and local LORS. The AFC and the Cultural Resources technical appendix (appendix J: 1-2) note that while no permit requirements have been identified at a federal, state or local level, subsequent action could require federal involvement through a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 404 permit or similar process that could necessitate compliance with Federal law 36CFR Part 800 Regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. At times permits or easements granted under state law include requirements regarding cultural resources. If there are no requirements concerning cultural resources included in an easement or permit, staff will need to know that to ensure compliance with law.

Data Request 25: Please identify whether general project activity(ies) or specific cultural resource activity(ies) at the project site or lay-down areas may necessitate compliance with Section 106.

Response: Magnolia Power Project activities are generally limited to the plant site and previously designated lay-down and parking areas. No federal land is involved, and no federal permits are required to complete the project. Therefore there is no component of this project that would trigger compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

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Data Request 26: Please provide a schedule for in-lieu applications or easements required by state or local law.

Response: Magnolia Power Project activities are generally limited to the plant site and previously designated lay-down and parking areas. No in-lieu applications or easements are required for this project by local or state law.

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Data Request 27: Please identify any federal permits required for this project that are defined as a federal undertaking under 36 DFR Part 800, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Response: Please see Data Response 25.

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The archaeological sensitivity or potential of a geographic locality is a function of local history and environmental factors. Prehistoric resources typically correspond to a number of environmental factors that include topography, proximity of necessary and desirable resources, including water, food, and technologically important materials, and proximity of other cultural sites. Confidential Appendix J pp. 3-3 refers to a stream channel that passed through the parcel.

Data Request 28: Please provide a discussion of the potential for buried or near surface archaeological resources in the project area. Note the former stream course through the project and consider its potential as an attractor for prehistoric activity, and its alluvial potential for burying archaeological resources.

Response: No prehistoric (and/or historic) archaeological sites have been identified at the plant site, nor have any been reported within a ½ mile radius (Morgan 2001: 2-1). While no prehistoric archaeological sites have been identified in the immediate vicinity, this does not necessarily exclude the possibility that undiscovered deposits exist in the area, underneath alluvium, parking lots, and buildings.

It commonly is recognized throughout the archaeological community that distance from water can be used as a predictor of human habitation locales. Typically, large prehistoric village sites are located very close to predictable and reliable sources of water. The ethnographic record of the Los Angeles basin clearly indicates that villages were often located immediately adjacent to, or at the confluence of stream channels (King 2000). Furthermore, although the exact location is unknown, the ethnographic village of *Tobpet* is reported to have been within the current boundaries of Burbank (ibid.). Both the 1928 aerial photograph and the 1902 Santa Monica USGS 15' quadrangle map, indicate that an unnamed tributary to the Los Angeles River (now re-routed and confined to the concrete lined Burbank Western Channel) historically crossed the central area of the Magolia

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Power Plant parcel (please refer to the 1928 aerial photograph in attachment 33-1). While the channel of the unnamed drainage was located to the southwest of the planned ground-disturbing activities (see Figure 29-1), there is always the *potential* for buried archaeological deposits to be located on the former banks of the channel within the project area of potential effects.

It can be induced from analysis of landform modifications at the project site that several events took place which reduce the potential to encounter intact buried archaeological materials. First, if archaeological deposits were present along the stream channel, they would have likely been subject to scouring and/or alluvial deposition, as the channel appears not to have been deeply cut. Second, the 1928 aerial photograph clearly indicates that the entire plant site was under cultivation. Historic farming methods during the 1920s in California would typically indicate the use of mechanized tractors to plow the soil. Mechanized plowing through archaeological deposits typically eliminates any stratigraphic integrity of in the top two to three feet of the plow zone. Thirdly, fill was placed between the Burbank Western Channel (located to the east of the plant site) and a 1940 Work Projects Administration retaining wall (located to the west of the proposed plant site). The depth of this fill is not documented, but may be up to 12 feet in depth. Thus, any *potential* for intact archaeological resources would be limited to deeply buried deposits.

The current proposal for the Magnolia Power Plant includes plans for excavations of up to 15 feet in depth. Based on the site's history of landform modification (including historic plowing at the site) there is a *potential* that previously unknown prehistoric archaeological deposits *could* be present in the zone 14-15 foot below current ground surface, and potentially might be encountered during project excavation. The recommended archaeological monitoring in Appendix J, Section 4.4 (Morgan 2001:4-4) is designed to address such potential discoveries.

The mitigation recommendations proposed (Morgan 2001:4-4) include the provision for archaeological monitoring during initial grading of the plant site. It is appropriate to have archaeological monitors present when the depth of the excavations exceed 12 feet below ground

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surface to inspect the soil due to the potential of deeply buried undiscovered archaeological deposits. If unanticipated resources are discovered during construction, they will be addressed under the procedures set forth at CEQA Section 15064.5. If possible, the resource will be avoided through design modification. If the resource cannot be avoided, the project archaeologist will consult with the California Energy Commission with regard to resource significance. If it is determined that the resource is significant, then measures to mitigate impacts will be devised in consultation with the CEC and will be carried out by the Applicant.

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The AFC Appendix J, page 3-2 discusses past residential land use of the power plant parcel and refers to Sanborn maps and a 1928 aerial photograph that depict a residence. Date of construction, owners, and initial development and use for this residence is not provided. In addition, Confidential Appendix J, p. 3-2 notes that power plant personnel reported the discovery of buried cultural and biological material including tree stumps and “evidence” of a cesspit to URS archaeologists at the presumed location of the dwelling. Staff needs additional information to complete the analysis.

Data Request 29: Please indicate on a site plan the approximate location of any buildings and structures that once were present on the parcel. Include the approximate location of the cesspit and stumps found during previous construction activities on site under confidential cover.

Response: As requested this information is provided under separate confidential cover to protect the locations of potential historic archaeological deposits. Please refer to confidential Data Response 29 figures.

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Data Request 30: Please address past construction activities in the areas of previous historic buildings on the project site. Include the depth of excavation or fill in relation to predicted depth of historical deposits.

Response: The structures formerly located at the northeastern quadrant of the plant site were removed sometime around 1952. The residence and garage were reportedly demolished, leveled to grade, and later buried under fill. The engineer’s quarters and Quonset huts were also removed at approximately the same date. This area was then graded and filled (some areas were reported to be up to 12 feet of fill) and paved. Later plant activities (personal communication, Mike Simmonds and Dennis Moran, October 2001) required that deep excavations occur at the location of the former residence site. It is unclear what year these activities took place, or what depth “stumps and some bottles” were encountered. At this time it is impossible to predict the depth of any potential remains of the residence structure, however this site is located to the north of the anticipated project excavation areas. It is not anticipated that any features associated with this former structure will be exposed. However, it is possible that historic materials will be encountered during grading in this vicinity. The recommended archaeological monitoring in Appendix J, Section 4.4 (Morgan 2001:4-4) is designed to address such potential discoveries.

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Data Request 31: Please address the historical archaeological potential of the project site, based on construction history and land use history.

Response: Current plans for the northeastern quadrant of the plant site call for the removal of unconsolidated fill, which presumably represents imported fill placed on the original ground surface. Assuming the integrity of surface accumulations and shallow deposits was disrupted by the grading and filling sequences in the twentieth century, it is unlikely that the proposed activities would have an impact on any surface archaeological deposits that might be present. If a deeper or thicker deposit was present prior to fill placement, it is possible that it might have retained a high degree of integrity, and may have significant value with regard to interpretation. Thus, any *potential* for intact archaeological resources would be limited to deeply buried deposits. The recommended archaeological monitoring in Appendix J, Section 4.4 (Morgan 2001:4-4) is designed to address such potential discoveries.

The historic archaeological potential of the project site can be summarized into four categories:

- Archival and evidence and personal communication with long-time plant staff indicate that there were two separate lots located in the northern quadrant of the Magnolia Power Project property. One lot was the location of a **pre-1923 residence and an associated**

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garage outbuilding. This structure was demolished in the 1950s; stumps from the trees and remains of the cesspit were discovered (depth below surface not reported) during plant grading activities at the “Old Wash Site”(Personal communication, Mike Simmonds, October 2001). There is a *potential* to encounter further remains of the cesspit, although artifacts found in cesspits tend to have limited interpretation value (see discussion below).

- The next lot contained an **engineering hut and two Quonset hut barracks**, which were associated with the original Magnolia Power plant. These temporary huts were apparently constructed between 1928 and 1940, “but probably in the 1930s” (Personal communication, Mike Simmonds, October 2001). There are no remnants of these structures visible on the surface and it is likely that all traces were removed when they were demolished in 1950.
- A 1940 **WPA retaining wall** is located on the western edge of the Quonset Hut lot. This wall is part of the plant parcel, and like the plant, does not appear to meet the criteria for eligibility for either the National or California Registers of Historic Places (see discussion below).
- An apparent deposit of **isolated bottles**. Former plant employees report that some bottles were encountered during previous excavations on the north and west edges of Cooling Tower #3 (building number 15 on figure 31-1). The reported location of these isolated finds is located outside of the planned excavation areas for the current project. However, it is possible that the reported bottles represent a trash concentration or dump. The extent and nature of this resource, if present, is unknown. It is possible that historic materials will be encountered during grading in this vicinity. The recommended archaeological monitoring in Appendix J, Section 4.4 (Morgan 2001:4-4) is designed to address such potential discoveries.

Pre-1923 residence and associated garage outbuilding. The historic archaeological potential at the site of the pre-1923 residence structure located in the northern quadrant of the Magnolia Power Project

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property would look primarily to the exposure of intact disposal features containing accumulations of artifacts related to the activities engaged in on the property.

The structure and one outbuilding, surrounded by regular plantings that appear to represent an orchard or a vineyard, are visible in a 1928 aerial photograph (see Data Request #33 Response). Despite archival research conducted at the Los Angeles County Recorder's office and the Burbank Library conducted in October of 2001, the date of construction for the residence structure has not been established, although the structure does appear on a 1923 Sanborn Fire Insurance map (see Data Request #33 Response). Thus, determining whether the residence originally was equipped with indoor plumbing or relied on an outhouse remains an issue. It has been reported that a cesspool was encountered during construction in the vicinity of the residence structure (personal communication, Mr. Mike Simmonds, October 2001). A site plan prepared in 1944 or 1946 (Plant site File number CM-5) depicts a cesspool at the rear corner of the structure, labeled "Cess Pool 12' Below Surface." Insofar as the residence appears to have been built in the early twentieth century and a cesspool was encountered, it is unlikely that a privy (which might contain an artifact accumulation representing incidental or terminal deposition) will be encountered. While cesspits are known to contain artifacts, e.g., coins, jewelry, small toys, etc., because of the size sorting related to their disposal, they tend to have limited interpretation value. The stumps of trees apparently depicted on the (plant site file number) CM-5 (see Data Request #29) drawing were reported to have been encountered and removed during previous grading activities at the plant site; unfortunately details as to the depth below ground surface of these tree stumps are not available (personal communication, Mr. Mike Simmonds, October 2001).

Engineering hut and two Quonset hut barracks. These temporary huts were apparently constructed between 1928 and 1940, "but probably in the 1930s" (Personal communication, Mike Simmonds, October 2001). A 1947 Plant drawing CM – 11A (see Data Request #29) depicts two 20 foot by 48 foot barracks buildings, described as Quonset huts that provided housing and living space for plant engineers, at the west end of the "Old Engineering Building," (see

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Data Request #29) (Personal communication, Mike Simmonds, October 2001). Aerial photographs, Sanborn Fire Insurance maps and plant drawings suggest a construction date of post 1928. There are no remnants of these structures visible on the surface. It is unlikely that there are any significant archaeological deposits associated with these former structures.

WPA retaining wall. In 1940 the Work Progress Administration completed the concrete retaining wall that parallels the “Old Wash Site” (see Figure 2 in Appendix O of the AFC Volume II) along the eastern margin of the property (personal communication, Mike Simmonds, October 2001). Mr. Simmonds has indicated that the fill east of the WPA retaining wall may be as much as 12 feet in depth. A 1947 Plant drawing (CM – 11A) suggests that the concrete retaining wall adjacent to the “Old Wash” was demolished to grade, as indicated by a note in the drawing “Remove Top of Conc. Wall As Required for Pavement.” Portions of this feature are still visible in the parking lot area located east of Cooling Towers 1, 2, and 3. A primary record form prepared for this feature (see Data Request Response #34), documents the above ground portion of the wall. The wall fragment appears to have little potential to provide significant historic data, and does not appear to meet any of the criteria for the California Register of Historic Places. It is clearly a “nonunique archaeological resource” which does not meet the criteria of subdivision (g) of CEQA section 21083.2. A nonunique archaeological resource need be given no further consideration, other than the simple recording of its existence by the lead agency if it so elects.

Isolated Bottles. The current plant manager alludes (personal communication, Mr. Mike Simmonds, October 2001) to “the discovery of old bottles” during construction episodes in the presumed orchard area southeast of the pre-1923 residence structure, and adjacent the north and west edges of Cooling Tower Number 3 (see figure 31-1; note that this locale is outside of any currently proposed excavation areas for the proposed project). It is entirely possible that the occupants of the pre-1923 structure disposed of waste items, including bottles, in one or more locations in or adjacent the orchard. The history of landform modification on the project property suggests that surface

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accumulations and shallow deposits would likely have been destroyed by the grading/fill sequences undertaken there.

Attachment DR 31

Figure 31-1

Key to Buildings at the Burbank Public Service Department Magnolia-Olive Plant

Building 1	Entrance and Magnolia Units 1, 2, 3, 4	1939, Units: 1941, 1943, 1949, and 1952
Building 2	Administration Building	1949, expanded ca. 1960
Building 3	Warehouse	1936
Building 4	Shops	ca. 1940-1950
Building 5	Transformer field	1941
Building 6	Storage	1965
Building 7	Electrical shop	1963
Building 8	Communication trailer	1992
Building 9	Storage	ca. 1990
Building 10	Parking shelters	1950s, altered through 1997
Building 11	Cooling tower	1940
Building 12	Cooling tower	1940
Building 13	Magnolia Unit 5	1965-1968
Building 14	Chlorine House	ca. 1952
Building 15	Cooling tower	ca. 1952
Building 16	Small sheds	1990s
Building 17	Open-sided shed	Early 1970s
Building 18	Storage shed	mid 1960s, expanded early 1970s
Building 19	Series of sheds	In stages, 1950 - 1968
Building 20	Trailer	1990s
Building 21	Prefab metal shed	1950s
Building 22	Paint shop	Late 1950s
Building 23	Underground fuel tank	ca. 1940
Building 24	Water tanks	1960s, expanded through 1990s
Building 25	Fuel tank	1940
Building 26	Water well forebay	ca. 1940
Building 27	Cooling tower	Early 1950s (before 1952)
Building 28	Fuel tank	Early 1950s (before 1952)
Building 29	Olive Units 1, 2, 3, 4	In stages, 1959 - 1982
Building 30	Quonset huts	Early 1950s
Building 31	Transformer yard	1959
Building 32	Cooling tower	1959
Building 33	Open storage	1940
Building 34	Cooling tower	1965
Building 35	Garage	Late 1930s
Building 36	De-chlorination building	Early 1970s
Building 37	PCB storage	1985
Building 38	Truck garage	1990

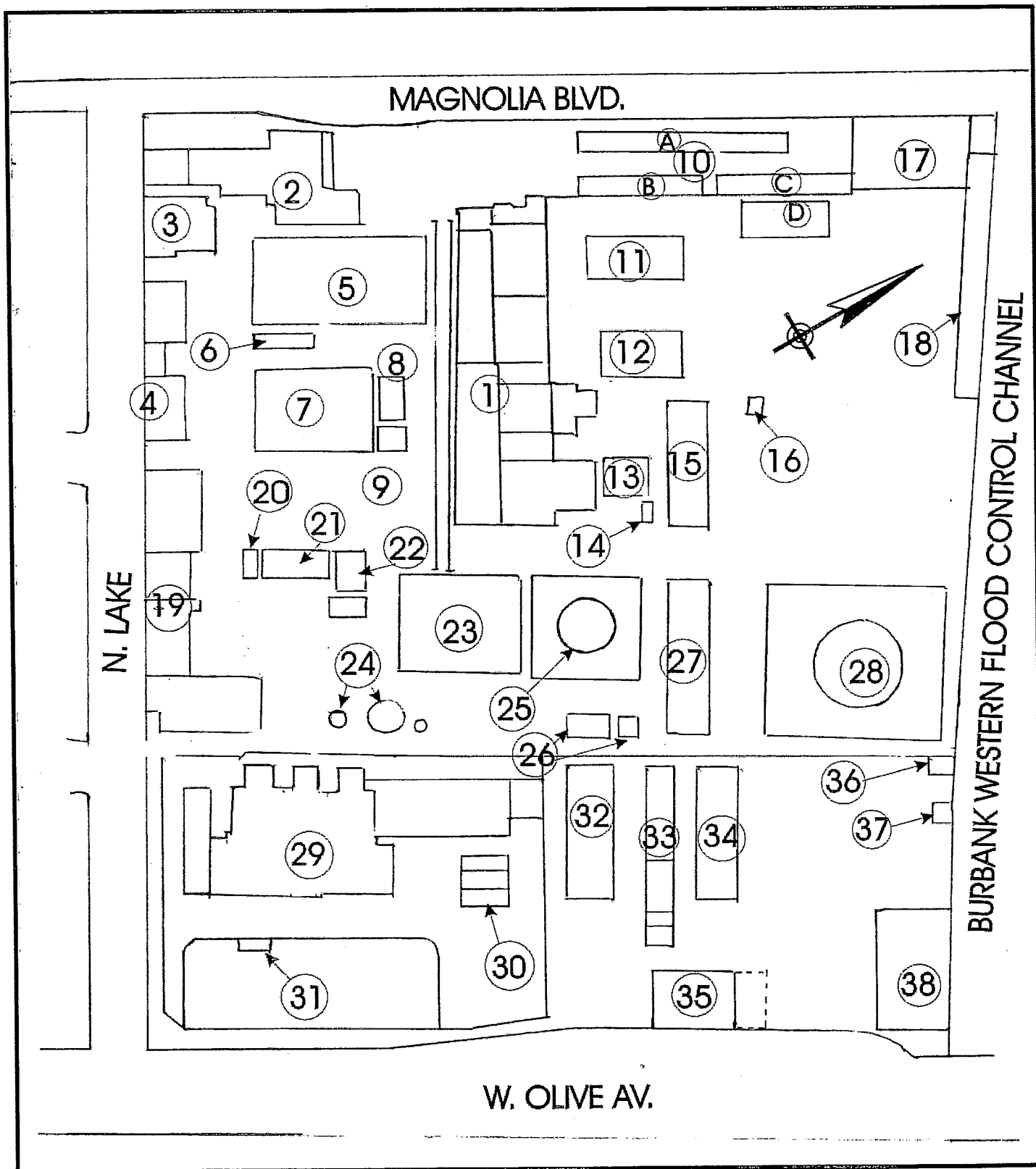


FIGURE 3. Site Plan

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Data Request 32: Please provide information concerning the residence previously located on the project site. Please address the date the residence was established, initial owners, and use (e.g., agriculture, ranching).

Response: The archival record concerning the residence, unattached garage, and associated cesspit, formerly located at the northeastern corner of the project site was investigated for this data request. The Los Angeles County Recorder’s office and Tax Assessor’s office were visited. The structure was located on APN#2453-003-018. An informal title search was initiated at the recorder’s office, and a list of previous owners was generated. The following individuals owned the parcel from the 1920s through the 1940s: Margo Adler, Frank Adams, and Adeline Touchette. Unfortunately, information regarding the original owner and/or building date of the structure was not available. It is clear that the structure was constructed after 1902 but before 1928. It appears on, and pre-dates the 1928 aerial photograph – and is not depicted on the 1902 USGS 15’ Santa Monica Quadrangle (see Data Request #33 Response). Based on the 1928 aerial photograph, it appears that this structure was the farmhouse for a small (~20 acre) farmstead. It appears on the 1941, 1949, and 1950 Sanborn maps, and is identified as a dwelling. It also appears on a plant site drawing (CM-11A) with a 1952 notation, “HOUSE: House out of service for rental. Sewer disconnected 1-22-52.” The house does not appear on the 1957 Sanborn map, and is presumed to have been demolished by that time.

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Another plant employee was interviewed (personal communication, Mr. Dennis Moran, October 2001) by URS staff, and it was noted that the “old house” was simply torn down and paved over. Some of the plant employees refer to the house as a “schoolhouse,” however Mr. Moran stated that, “old timers refer to it as either the caretakers house or school house and that it was known as an informal school possible for children of farm labor. Also, the old timers had found bottles at the site and took them home.” Despite contacting the Burbank Historical Society and a search at the Burbank Library, no corroborating evidence could be located to verify or refute the suggestion that the site was used as a school. The Sanborn maps do not list this structure as a school.

It should be noted that the site of the residence is to the north of the planned excavation areas on the plant site and should not be affected by the proposed project. However, it is possible that historic materials will be encountered during grading in this vicinity. The recommended archaeological monitoring in Appendix J, Section 4.4 (Morgan 2001:4-4) is designed to address such potential discoveries.

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Data Request 33: Please supply copies of the relevant Sanborn maps and aerial photographs (referenced in the AFC p. 5.7-13 and Appendix J, page 3-2) used to identify historic buildings and structures.

Response: Copies of relevant Sanborn maps, aerial photographs, and U.S.G.S. topographic maps are attached.



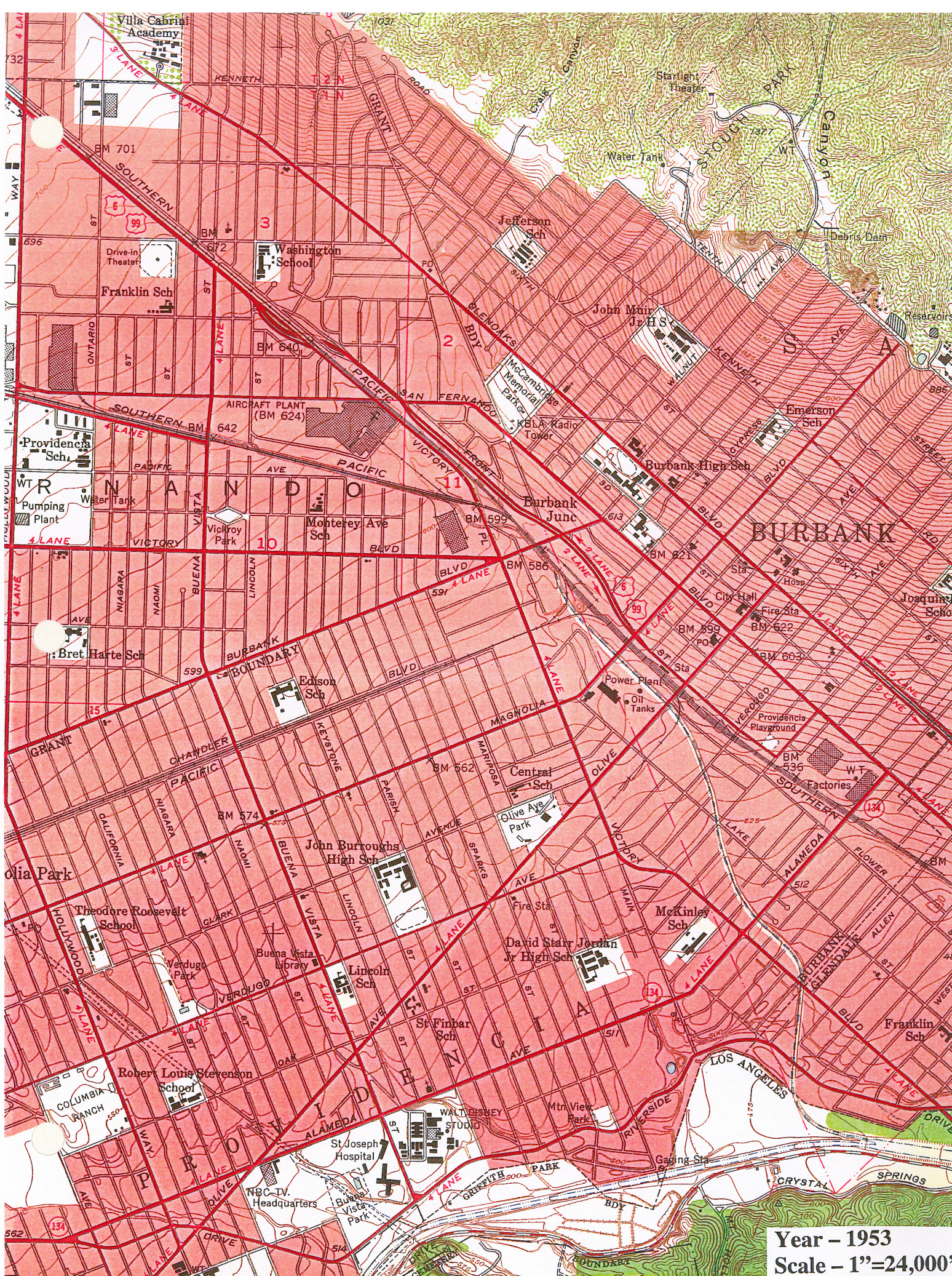
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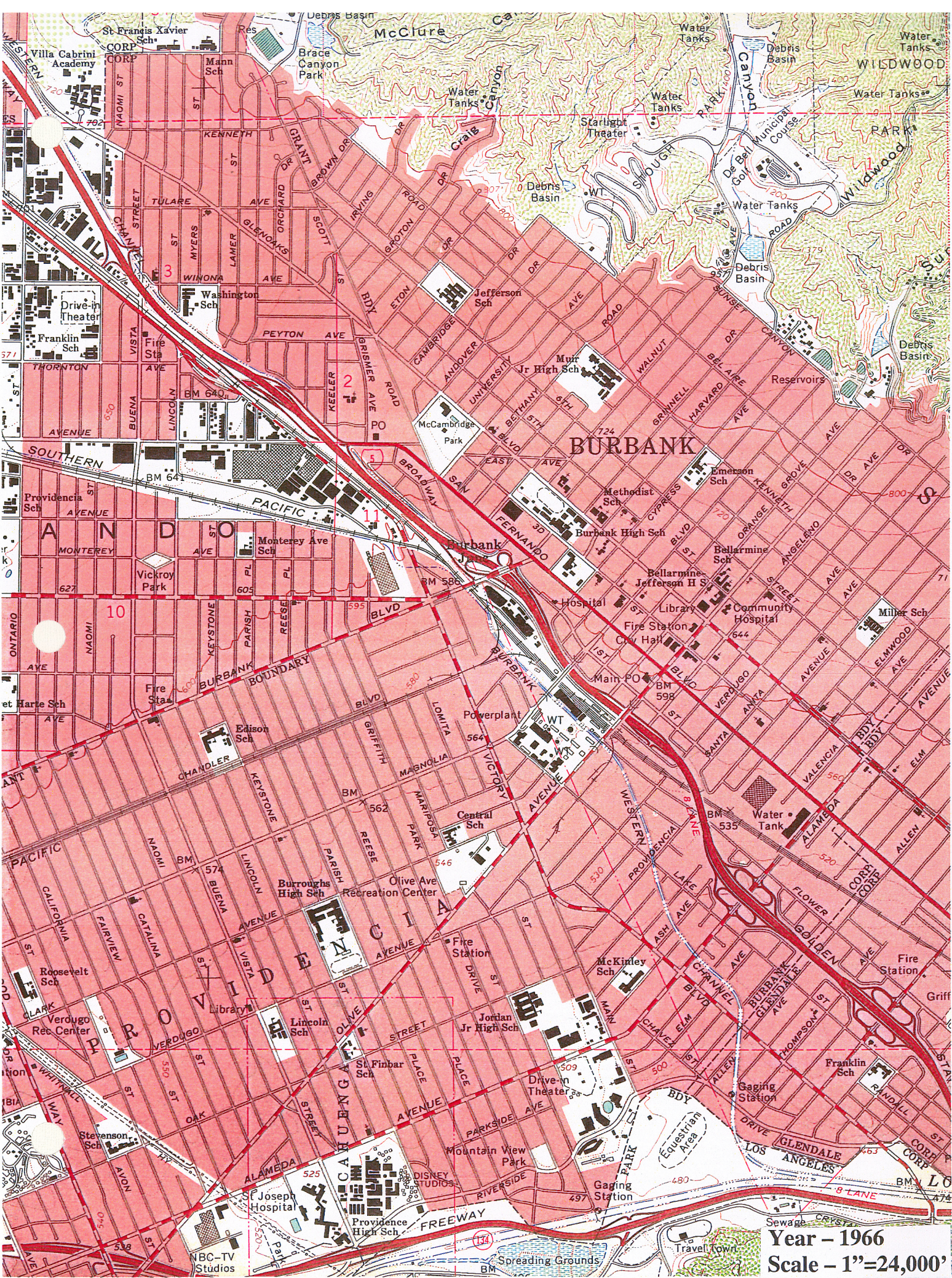
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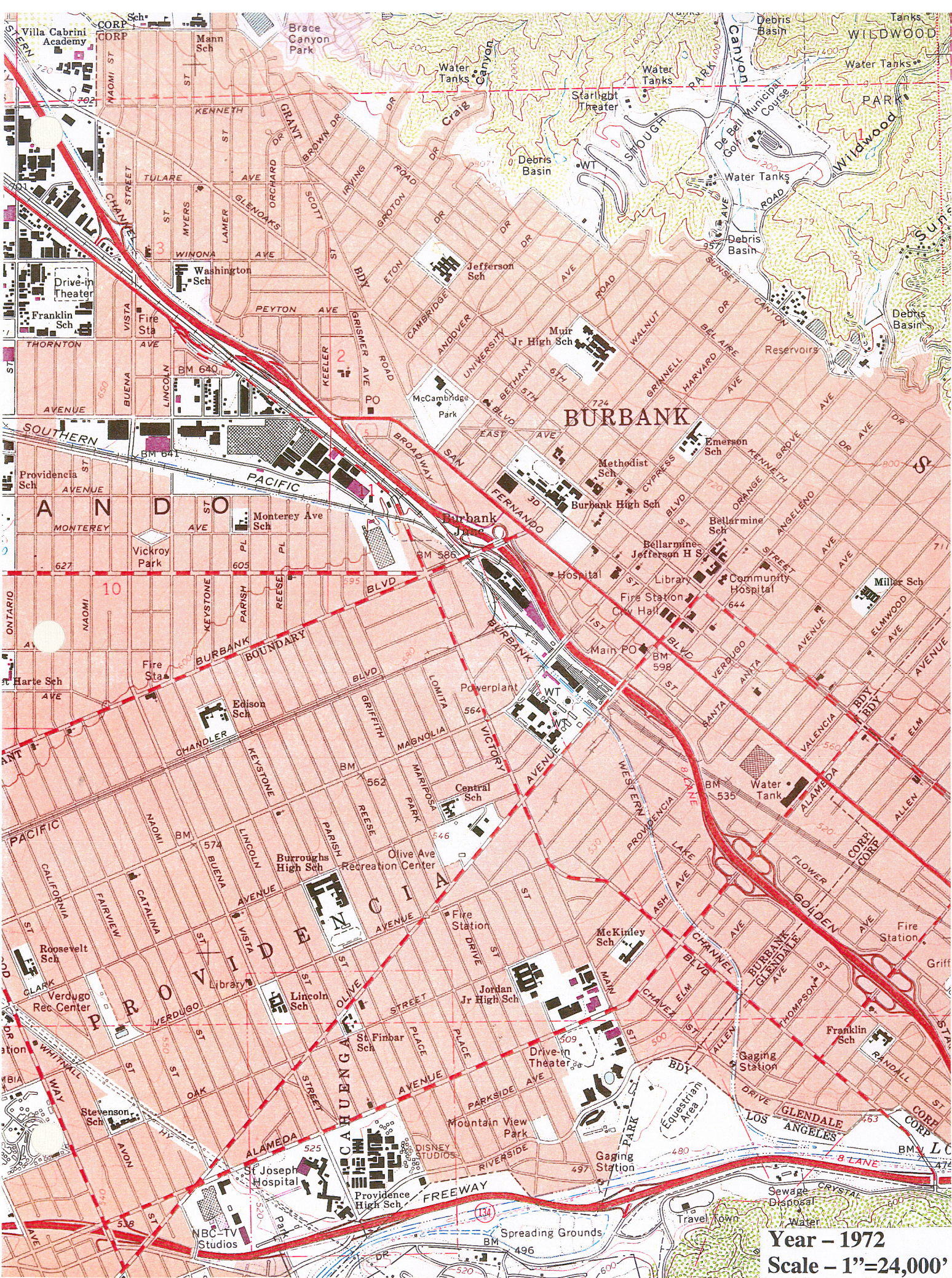
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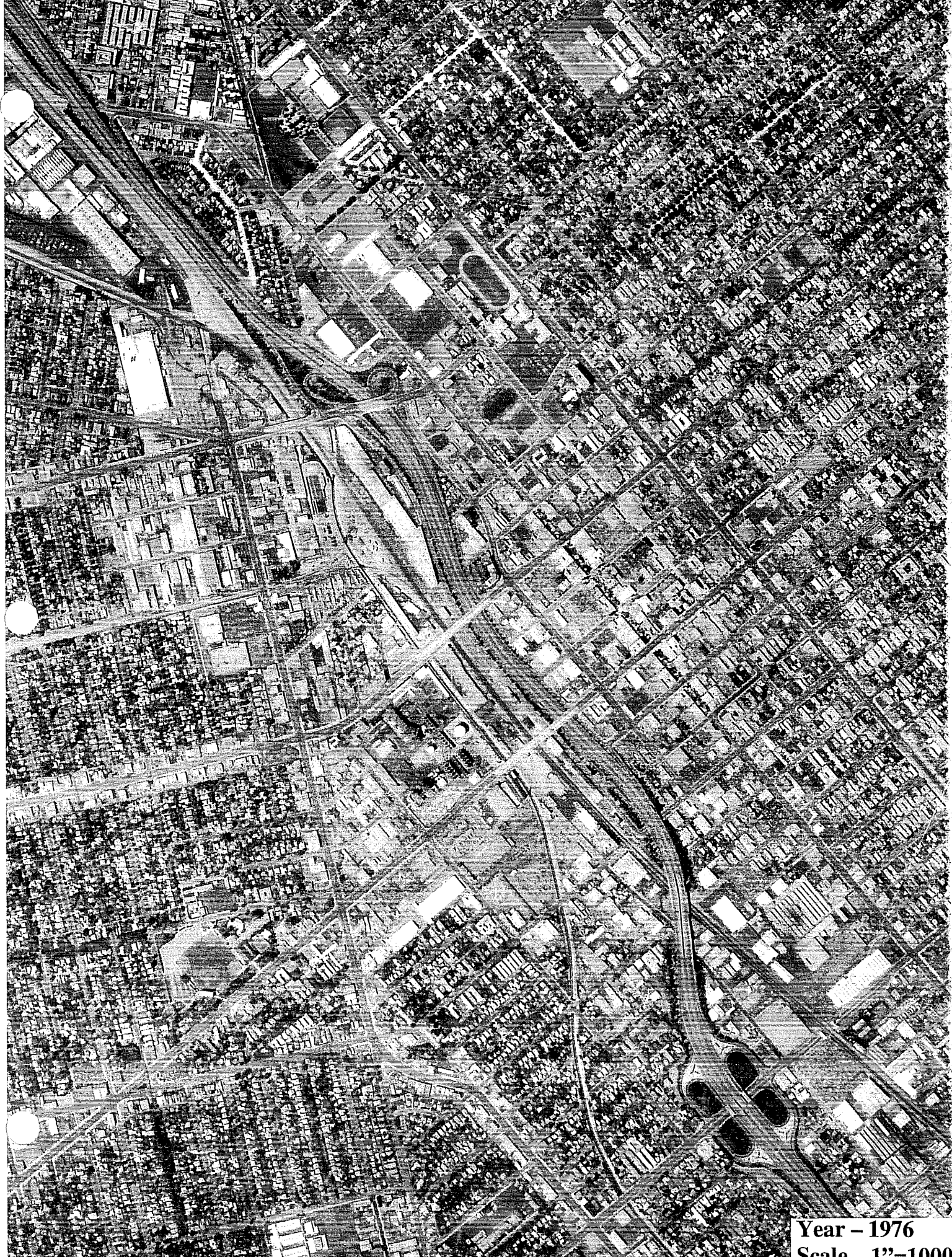
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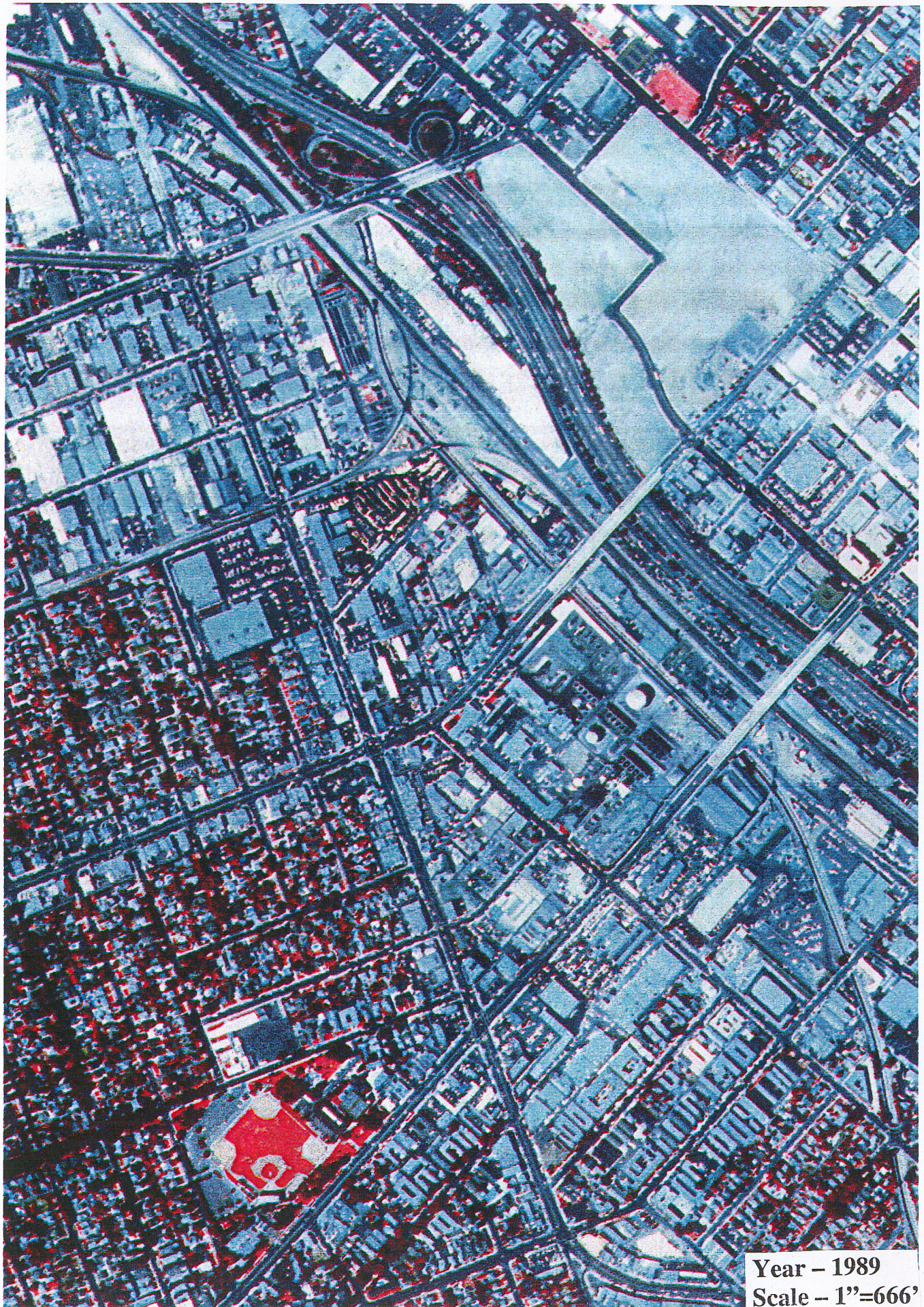
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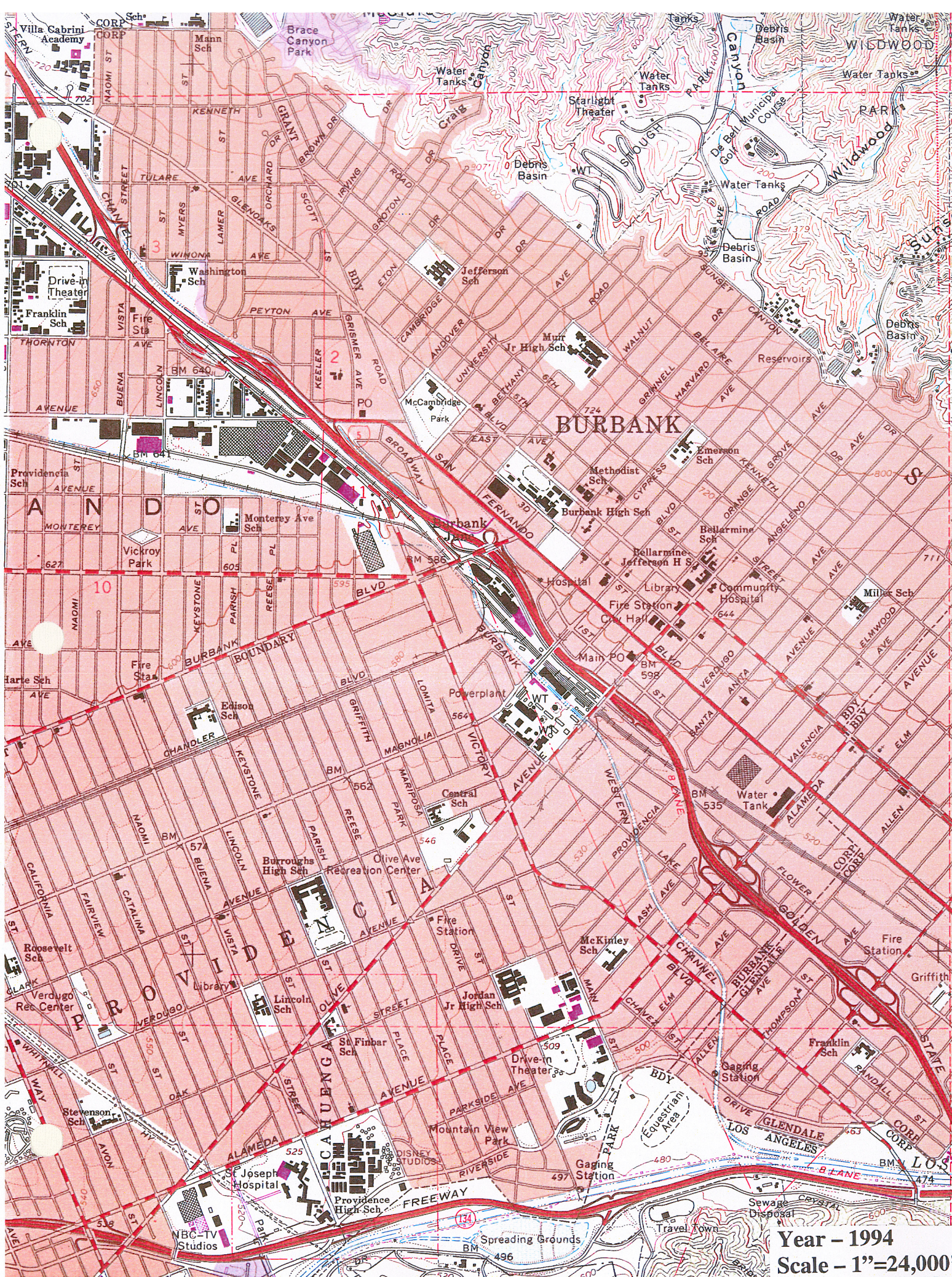
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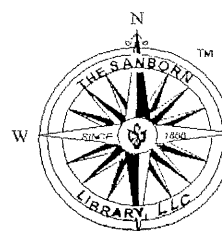
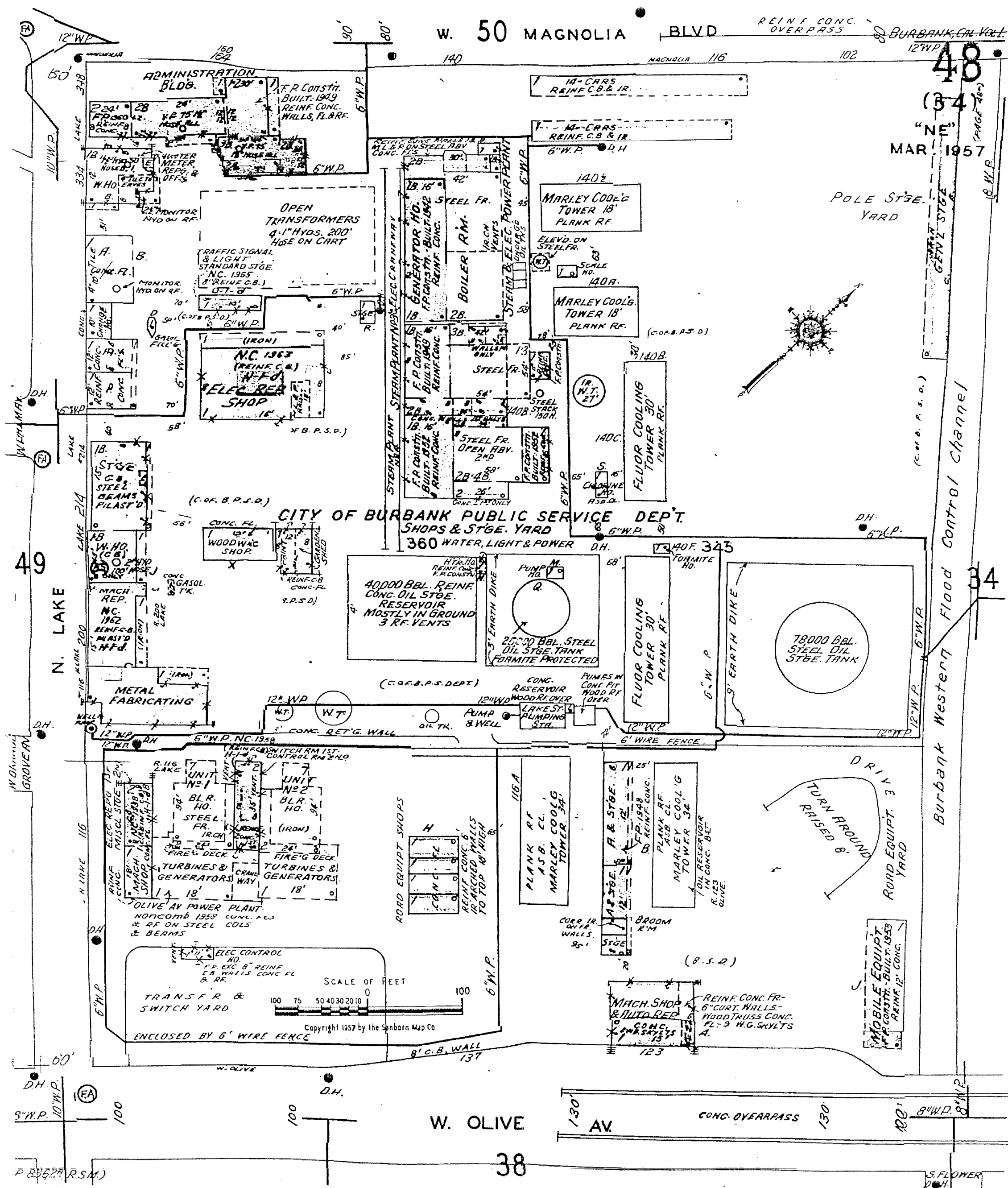
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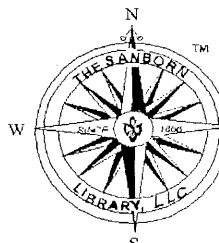
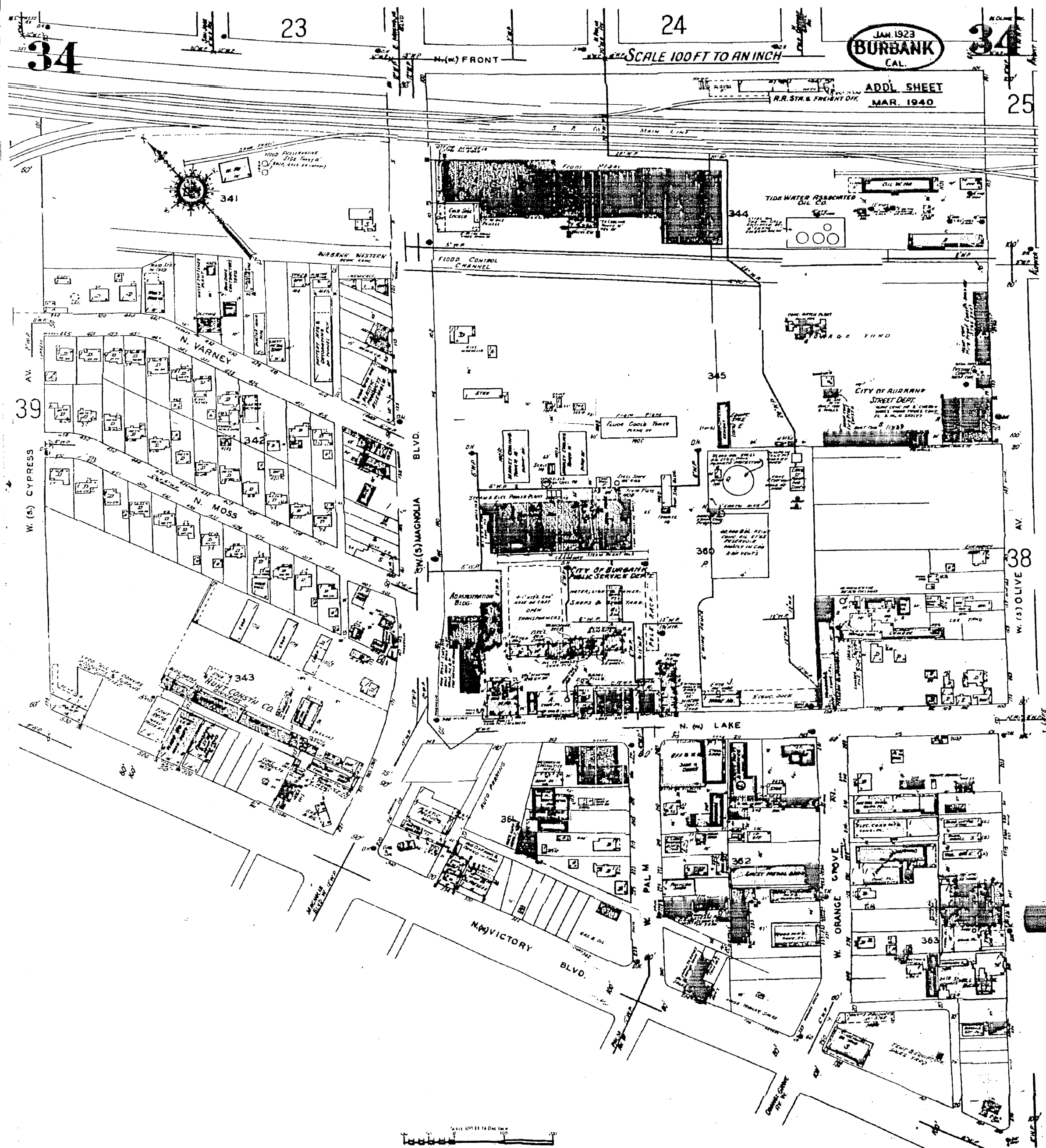


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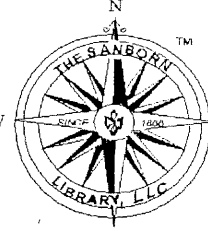
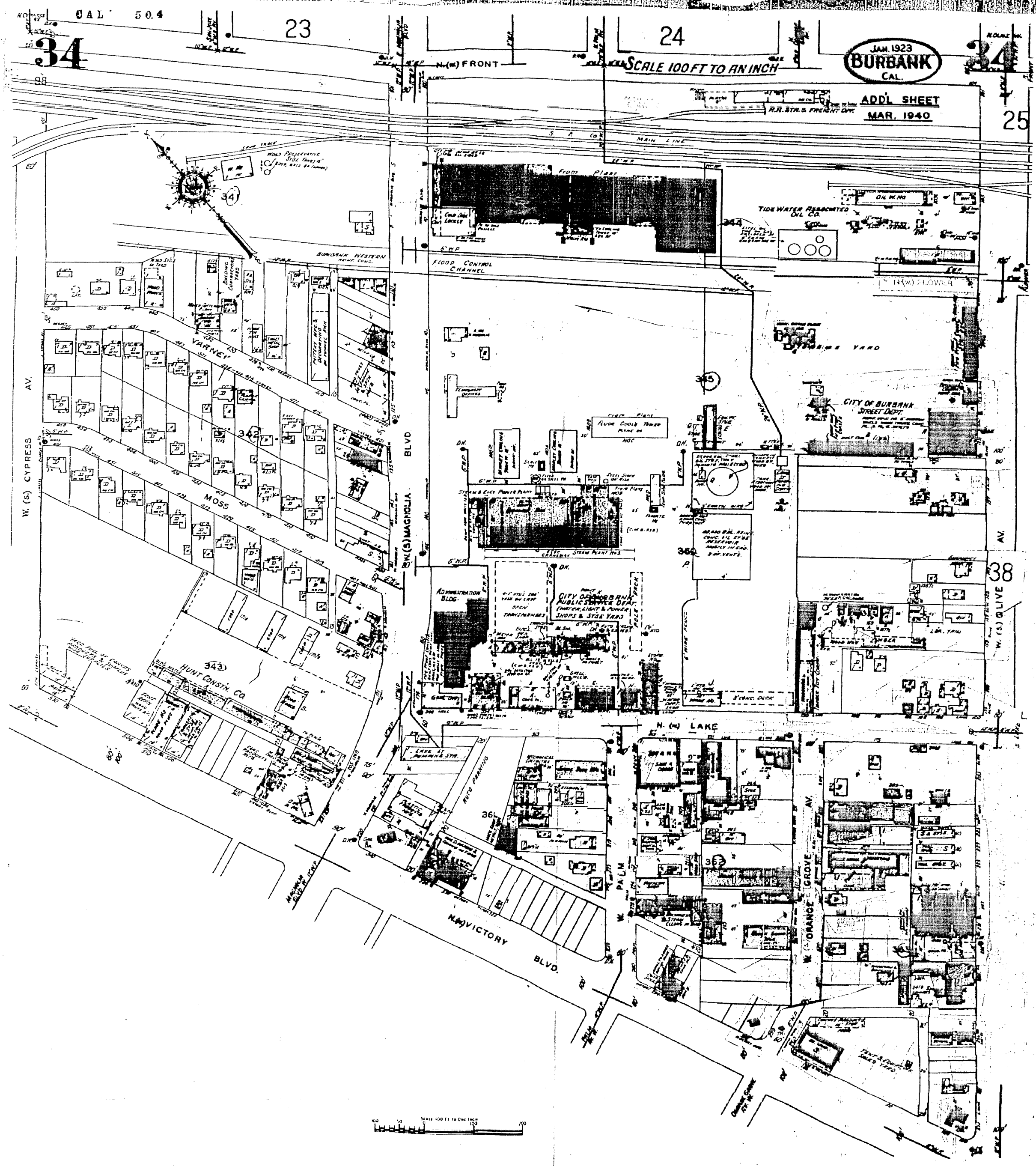


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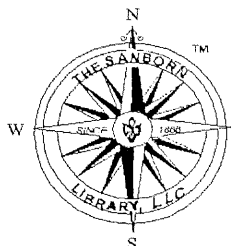
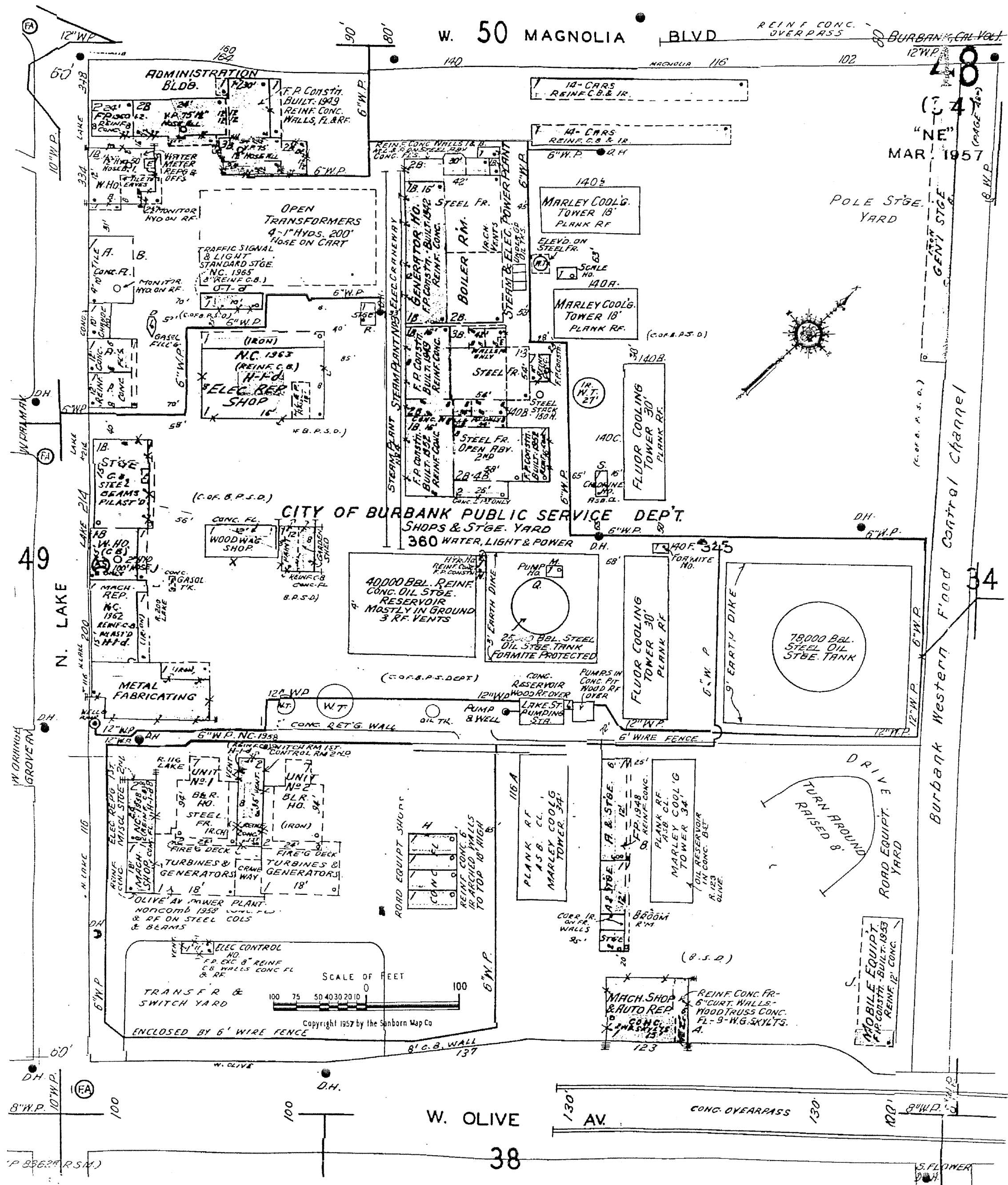


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To conduct a thorough analysis, staff needs supporting documentation to be able to agree or disagree with the applicant's findings.

Data Request 34: Please provide copies of the DPR 523 forms for all buildings, structures or objects older than 45 years of age within the Area of Potential Effect.

Response: Please see Data Reponse #29.

**MAGNOLIA POWER PROJECT
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Technical Area: Cultural Resources

BACKGROUND

Staff needs clarification of construction procedures to complete the analysis.

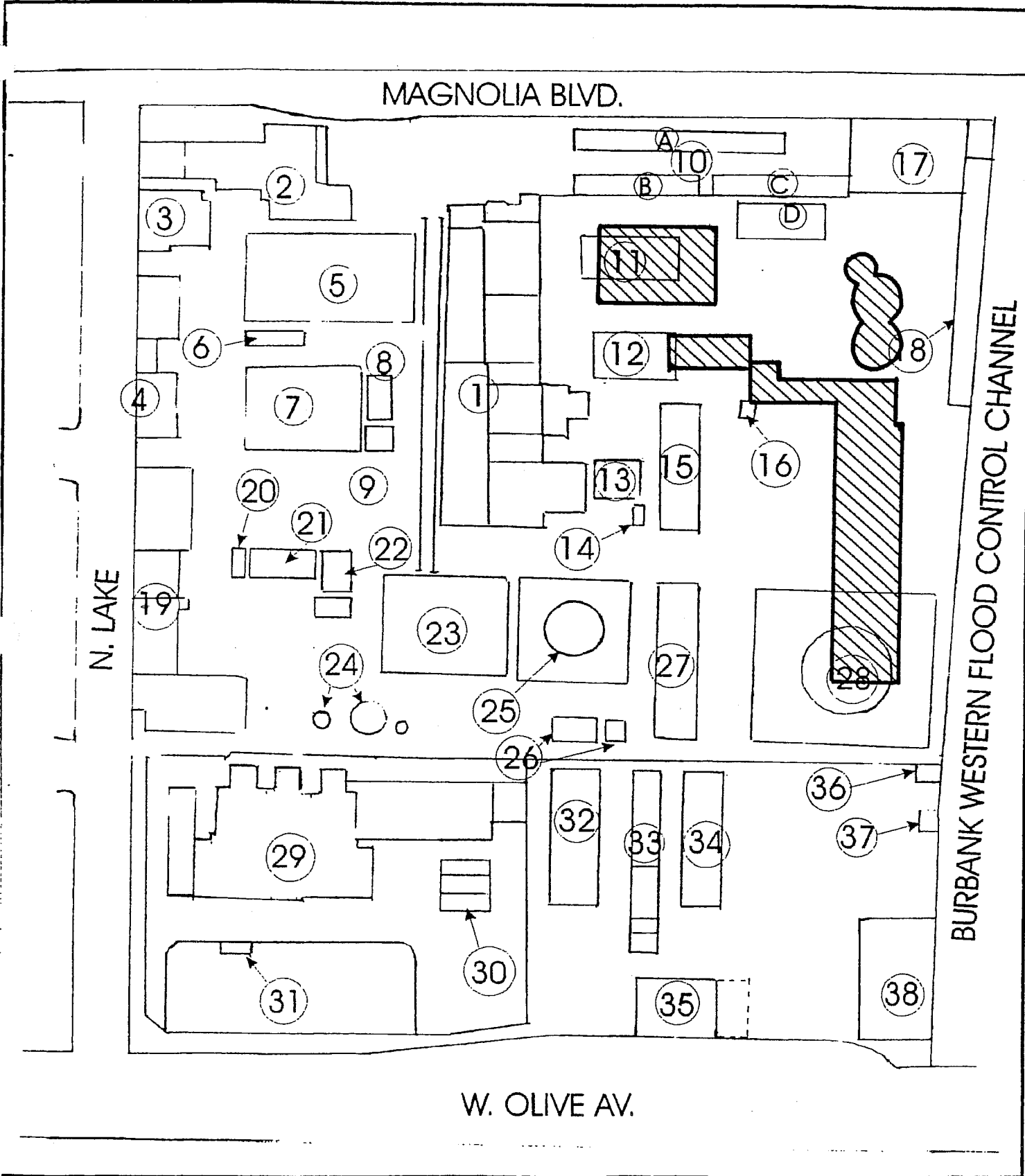
Data Request 35: Please indicate on a figure of the site plan areas where project related excavation will occur and the depth of that excavation.

Response: Please see attached figure.

Key to Buildings at the Burbank Public Service Department Magnolia-Olive Plant

Building 1	Entrance and Magnolia Units 1, 2, 3, 4	1939, Units: 1941, 1943, 1949, and 1952
Building 2	Administration Building	1949, expanded ca. 1960
Building 3	Warehouse	1936
Building 4	Shops	ca. 1940-1950
Building 5	Transformer field	1941
Building 6	Storage	1965
Building 7	Electrical shop	1963
Building 8	Communication trailer	1992
Building 9	Storage	ca. 1990
Building 10	Parking shelters	1950s, altered through 1997
Building 11	Cooling tower	1940
Building 12	Cooling tower	1940
Building 13	Magnolia Unit 5	1965-1968
Building 14	Chlorine House	ca. 1952
Building 15	Cooling tower	ca. 1952
Building 16	Small sheds	1990s
Building 17	Open-sided shed	Early 1970s
Building 18	Storage shed	mid 1960s, expanded early 1970s
Building 19	Series of sheds	In stages, 1950 - 1968
Building 20	Trailer	1990s
Building 21	Prefab metal shed	1950s
Building 22	Paint shop	Late 1950s
Building 23	Underground fuel tank	ca. 1940
Building 24	Water tanks	1960s, expanded through 1990s
Building 25	Fuel tank	1940
Building 26	Water well forebay	ca. 1940
Building 27	Cooling tower	Early 1950s (before 1952)
Building 28	Fuel tank	Early 1950s (before 1952)
Building 29	Olive Units 1, 2, 3, 4	In stages, 1959 - 1982
Building 30	Quonset huts	Early 1950s
Building 31	Transformer yard	1959
Building 32	Cooling tower	1959
Building 33	Open storage	1940
Building 34	Cooling tower	1965
Building 35	Garage	Late 1930s
Building 36	De-chlorination building	Early 1970s
Building 37	PCB storage	1985
Building 38	Truck garage	1990

Figure for Data Request #35 - Anticipated project excavation areas.



Project excavated areas (approximately 8 to 15 ft. deep)

Numbered Building List on attached page.

Figure adapted from: JRP. 2001. Historical Evaluation of the Magnolia-Olive Electric Power Plant; Burbank, Los Angeles County, California. Figure 3

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BACKGROUND

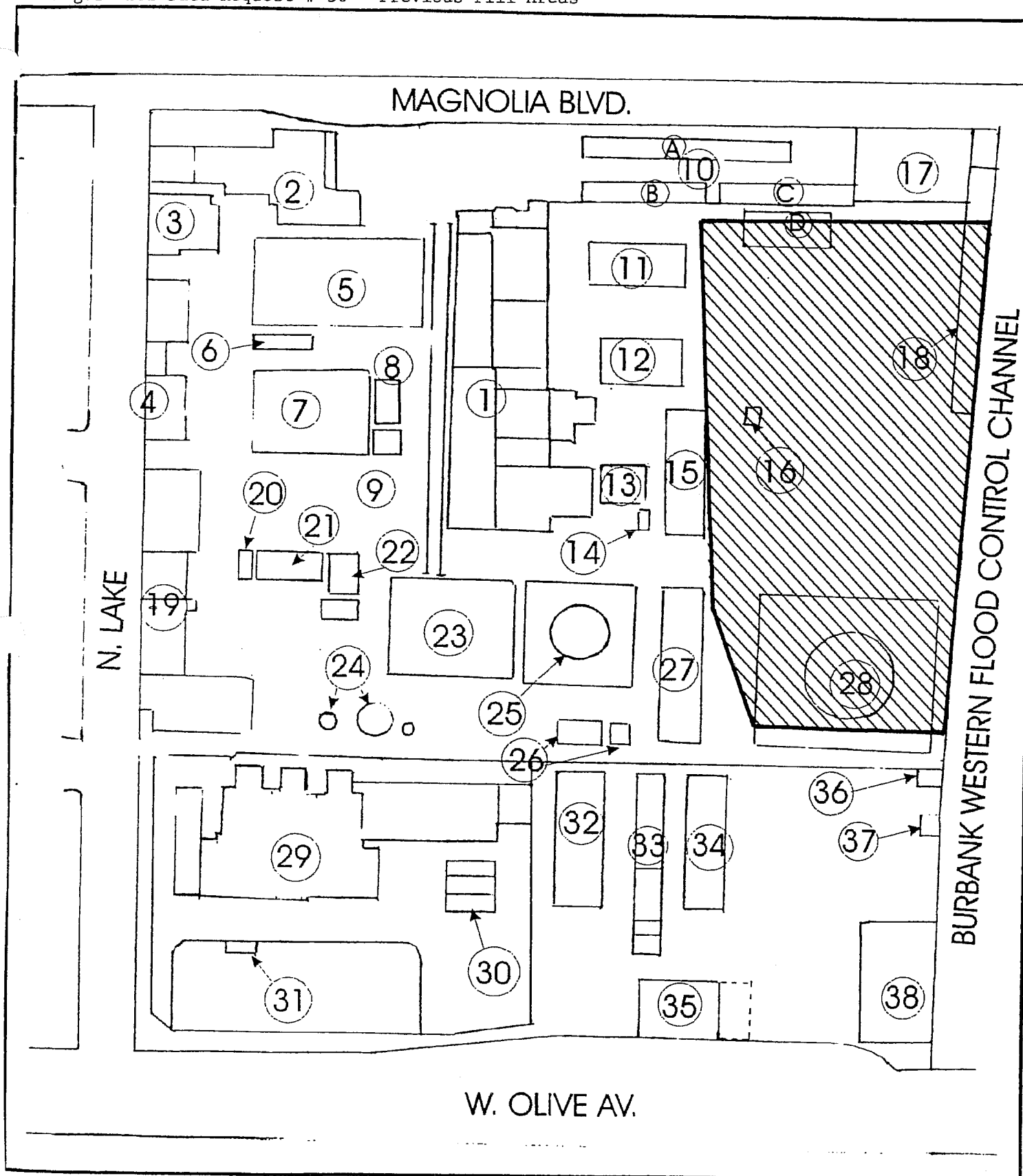
Staff needs clarification of construction procedures to complete the analysis.

Data Request 36: Please identify areas of the project site where fill was previously added. Indicate the depth and location of the fill. Will fill be used in the proposed project? Where will the fill dirt be obtained? Please identify areas of the project site where fill will be used.

Response: Please see attached figure. The project may require fill materials from off-site locations. The contractor will supply any necessary fill material from suitable sources or suppliers.

Key to Buildings at the Burbank Public Service Department Magnolia-Olive Plant

Building 1	Entrance and Magnolia Units 1, 2, 3, 4	1939, Units: 1941, 1943, 1949, and 1952
Building 2	Administration Building	1949, expanded ca. 1960
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Building 31	Transformer yard	1959
Building 32	Cooling tower	1959
Building 33	Open storage	1940
Building 34	Cooling tower	1965
Building 35	Garage	Late 1930s
Building 36	De-chlorination building	Early 1970s
Building 37	PCB storage	1985
Building 38	Truck garage	1990



Areas of known historic fill. Depth of this fill is unknown, but is reported to be up to 12' in depth.

Numbered Building List on attached page.

Figure adapted from: JRP. 2001. Historical Evaluation of the Magnolia-Olive Electric Power Plant; Burbank, Los Angeles County, California. Figure 3

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The AFC and Appendix J, page 4-3 recommend that an archaeological monitor be present subsequent to removal of paving, during initial grading and excavation activity in the northern quadrant of the plant site.

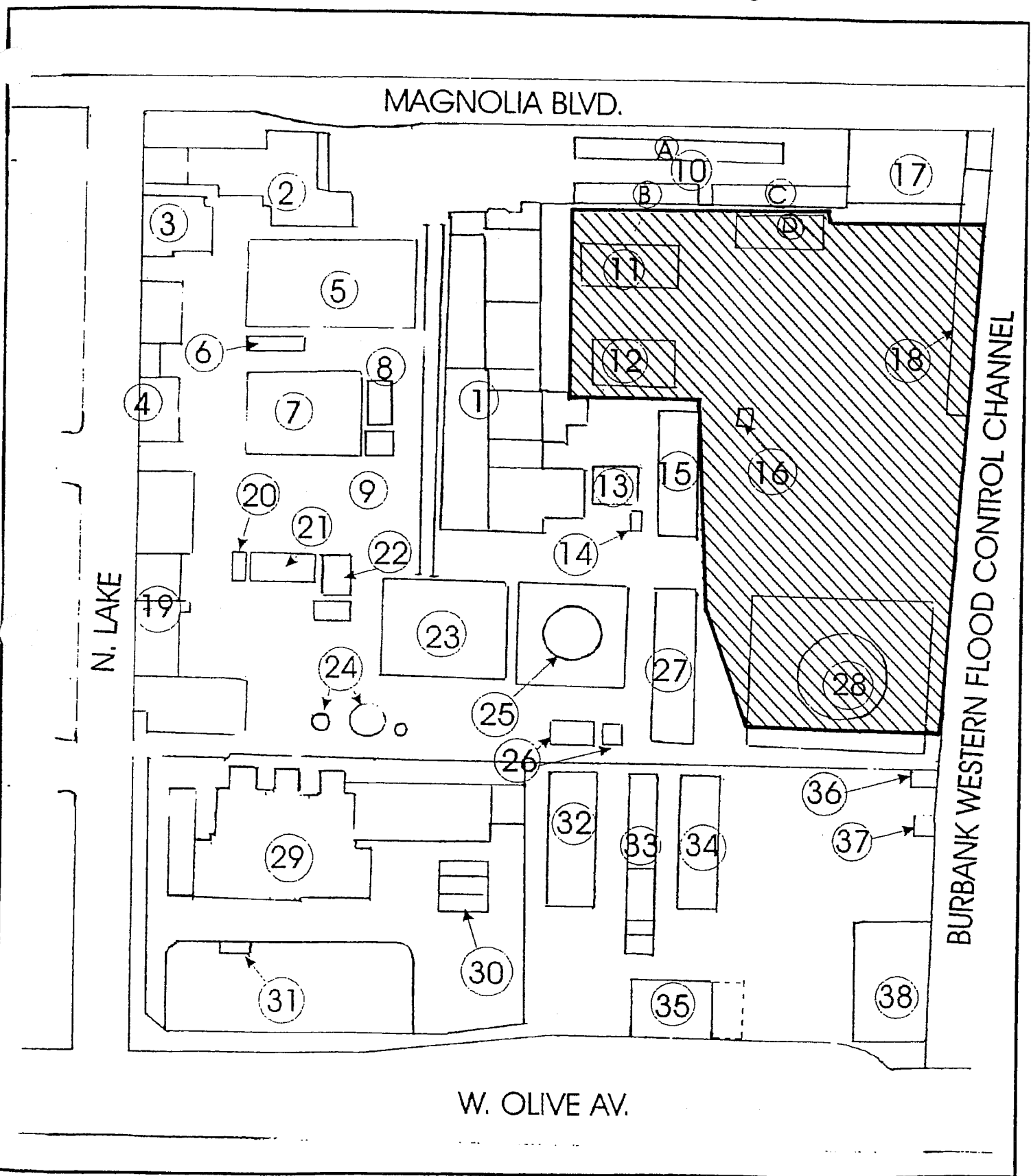
Data Request 37: Please provide a figure of the site plan depicting the location of recommended archaeological monitoring areas.

Response: A detailed Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (MMP) will be submitted to the CEC at a later date. At this time, it is anticipated that archaeological monitoring is recommended for any sub-surface excavation and grading within the project site. A figure is attached depicting the approximate areas where ground-disturbing excavation and grading are anticipated.

Key to Buildings at the Burbank Public Service Department Magnolia-Olive Plant

Building 1	Entrance and Magnolia Units 1, 2, 3, 4	1939, Units: 1941, 1943, 1949, and 1952
Building 2	Administration Building	1949, expanded ca. 1960
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Building 37	PCB storage	1985
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Figure for Data Request #37 - Location of Archaeological Monitoring



Archaeological monitoring area. Archaeologist will monitor sub-surface disturbance.

Numbered Building List on attached page.

Figure adapted from: JRP. 2001. Historical Evaluation of the Magnolia-Olive Electric Power Plant; Burbank, Los Angeles County, California. Figure 3